AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~mechanism~~ system for configuring handheld devices, comprising:

a website engine, for receiving user input;

a build-to-order configuration engine[;] for communicating with developers, coordinating software licensing, arranging software downloads and preventing conflicts;

a database engine, for managing executable code and data responsive to said configuration engine, and

a loading station[;] for performing the actual downloads;

wherein said loading station loads said handheld device based on user input received through said website engine and conveyed to said database and build-to-order configuration engines.

2. (Currently Amended) The ~~mechanism~~ system of claim 1, wherein said configuration engine communicates automatically with said developers using a registration module.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~mechanism~~ system of claim 2, wherein said registration module communicates with said developers using either pooled, generated, or dynamically requested communications.

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4. (Currently Amended)   The ~~mechanism~~ system of claim 1, wherein said

registration module supports the random-key method of software registration.

5. (Currently Amended)   The ~~mechanism~~ system of claim 1, wherein said

registration module supports the device-ID method of software registration.

6. (Currently Amended)   The ~~mechanism~~ system of claim 1, wherein said loading

station further comprises a transfer component, which transfers data back and forth over a

physical medium through a port, and an operating system driver layer, which handles the

actual moving of the bits through said port over said physical medium.

7. (Currently Amended)   The ~~mechanism~~ system of claim 6, wherein said transfer

component is abstracted such that it sees differing connection types as the same, because

said operating system driver layer is responsible for the actual moving of the bits.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~mechanism~~ system of claim 7, wherein software

drivers of said connection types can be added to or removed from said loading station.

9. (Currently Amended)   The ~~mechanism~~ system of claim 7, wherein software

drivers of said connection types are extended from sample software modules obtained from

product developers.

10. (Currently Amended)   The ~~mechanism~~ <u>system</u> of claim 1, wherein said build-to-order configuration engine contains links of which handheld applications cannot coexist with each other or are incompatible with specific handheld hardware

11. (Currently Amended)   The ~~mechanism~~ <u>system</u> of claim 10, wherein said build-to-order configuration engine receives data from the handheld device itself through the communication port of said loading station.

12. (Currently Amended)   The ~~mechanism~~ <u>system</u> of claim 10, wherein said build-to-order database further comprises a database catalog which contains information about a plurality of handheld software products, including what Operating System (O/S) version that product may require, the memory consumption of that product, what other software applications the product may be dependant upon, ~~and~~ <u>or</u> any other products/applications that it conflicts with.

13. (Currently Amended)   The ~~mechanism~~ <u>system</u> of claim 10, wherein said build-to-order database further comprises a database catalog which contains information about a plurality of handheld software products, including what Operating System (O/S) version that product may require, the memory consumption of that product, what other software applications the product may be dependant upon, ~~and~~ <u>or</u> any other products/applications that it conflicts with.

14. (Currently Amended)   The ~~mechanism~~ system of claim 1, wherein said

database engine comprises a database catalog which contains handheld software pricing and

supplier information, lead time, descriptions, sales volume levels, product shots (images),

~~and geographic sales restrictions, all of which is obtained from the developers of the~~

~~software~~.

15. (Currently Amended)   The ~~mechanism~~ system of claim 14, wherein said

database engine further comprises a dependency checker portion for comparing parameters

related to each piece of software.

16. (Currently Amended)   The ~~mechanism~~ system of claim 1, wherein said build-

to-order configuration engine further comprises a plurality of registration code mechanisms

each supported by a specialized registration module.

17. (Currently Amended)   The ~~mechanism~~ system of claim 16, wherein said build-

to-order configuration engine further comprises a plurality of registration code mechanisms

which can complete the registration process even when all software is preloaded on the

handheld device.

18. (Currently Amended)   The ~~mechanism~~ system of claim 1, wherein a customer

sends an existing handheld device to a location having a build-to-order configuration

engine, a database engine, and a loading station, wherein said customer accomplishes all

download registrations without using said website engine.

19. (Previously Presented)   A method of loading software onto a handheld device,

comprising:

querying a build-to-order configuration engine to ensure sufficient memory is

available to accommodate said software, that the desired software has no conflicts with any

other software desired by said user, and that the handheld device O/S (Operating System)

can accommodate said software;

querying said handheld device to ensure sufficient memory is available, and

reporting an error back to said user if necessary;

if necessary, prompting a user to order additional memory such as on a memory

card; and

locating said software program on said memory card where possible.